

Proclamation 6665—Jewish Heritage Week, 1994

April 8, 1994

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

American history is a tapestry woven from the fabric of traditions and beliefs from every corner of the globe and bound together by a common love for life and liberty. Since our Nation's earliest days, Jewish citizens have contributed to our success in virtually every field of human endeavor. The Jewish culture, a vibrant and distinctive strand in our richly textured tapestry, has helped to give our Nation its shape.

After enduring centuries of hardship and bigotry in nations throughout the diaspora, many Jewish people found their ways to America's shores. Some came early in our Nation's history, seeking to make their mark in a newly free society. Others came in the wake of the pogroms or the Holocaust, looking for a government that would protect their rights to worship and live as they chose. By boat, airplane, and any other means that would carry them, Jewish people came to America and infused this great land with a noble heritage based on faith and family, with an enduring commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and the ideal of justice.

Though the customs of daily Jewish life have changed markedly over the millennia, the central tenets of ancient Judaism have remained a constant guide since Moses taught them to his people so long ago. Jewish families continue to hand down these lessons to their children, and the fundamental lessons of the Torah still serve the faithful today, as we seek to renew our land and restore the bonds of community.

Jewish citizens, along with people of hundreds of other beliefs and backgrounds, have found freedom and success in our Nation of immigrants, and they continue to make lasting and meaningful contributions to every area of our society. Recognizing the positive influence of the Jewish people, traditions, and culture within our country, the Congress, by Public Law 103-27, has designated April 10 through April 17, 1994, as "Jewish Herit-

age Week," and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of April 10 through April 17, 1994, as Jewish Heritage Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 9, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on April 13.

Proclamation 6666—Pan American Day and Pan American Week, 1994

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Within the last few years, we have witnessed remarkable changes around the globe. The defeat of oppression and the ascendancy of democracy and free market systems have brought a new world full of opportunities and challenges. Nowhere has the march toward positive change—political, economic, and social—been more dramatic or more complete than in our own hemisphere.

From North to South, more citizens of the Americas are enjoying the fruits of liberty than ever before. Principles fundamental to democracy, such as acceptance of the rule of law and respect for human rights, continue to gain ground. There is no question that this hemisphere is well on its way to becoming a beacon of liberty and democracy for the whole world.